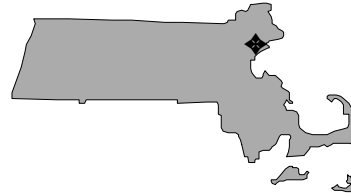


Size: 46 acres
Mission: Design, fabricate, and test prototype weapons and equipment
HRS Score: 50.00; placed on NPL in May 1994
IAG Status: Negotiation of Federal Facility Agreement planned for FY99
Contaminants: Acids, BTEX, incinerator ash, industrial wastes, paints, petroleum/oil/lubricants, photographic wastes, solvents, and VOCs
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: \$11.8 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$11.2 million (FY2017)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for All Sites: FY2002



Bedford, Massachusetts

Restoration Background

This government-owned, contractor-operated plant produces and tests prototype weapons and equipment, such as missile guidance and control systems. Four sites have been identified at the installation: Site 1 (incinerator ash disposal areas), potential soil contamination with ash and heavy metals; Site 2 (components laboratory fuel oil tank), potential soil contamination with low levels of petroleum/oil/lubricants; Site 3 (northwest groundwater plume), groundwater contaminated with a plume of volatile organic compounds (VOCs); and Site 4 (former fuel pump/tank BTEX area), soil and groundwater contaminated with benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX). The Navy began action to dispose of NWIRP Bedford as excess property in FY97. The planned completion of this action is scheduled for December 1999.

Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) activities began in FY88, and the Phase II RI began in FY92. Development of the work plan and fieldwork continued through FY93 and FY94 to further characterize soil contamination, locate sources of the VOC groundwater plume, and characterize migration of contaminants in groundwater.

In FY95, the draft Phase II RI report was submitted for regulatory review. A fate-and-transport groundwater model was initiated to support the risk assessment, and a Remedial Action Contract was awarded. In cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MADEP), the Navy implemented an immediate response action, defined under state law as a short-term remedial measure, to contain and remediate the VOC groundwater plume. The treatment system is expected to prevent migration of VOCs off site.

During FY96, the baseline Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment work plan was completed and submitted to the EPA for approval, and a fate-and-transport report was completed. The pump-and-treat system at Site 3 began operation in March 1997. Monthly monitoring of the treatment facility and quarterly monitoring of the Site 3 extraction and monitoring wells began in FY97.

The installation established a technical review committee in FY89 and converted it to a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) in FY95. A community relations plan (CRP) was developed in FY89 and updated in FY92. An information repository is maintained at the Bedford Public Library to provide public access to the administrative record.

FY98 Restoration Progress

The RI phase has been extended due to regulatory agencies' numerous requests for additional fieldwork at Installation Restoration (IR) sites. RI supplemental work plans for Sites 3 and 4 were completed, and both RI supplemental investigations began. A temporary access agreement was reached on one parcel of private property for implementation of the Site 4 RI supplemental field investigation. A second temporary access agreement concerning a separate private parcel of land has yet to be signed. An interim Record of Decision (ROD) was initiated for Site 3. The RI report, including the Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments, was not completed because of the regulatory recommendation that a supplemental investigation of Sites 3 and 4 be implemented before completion of the RI. RODs for Sites 1 and 2 have been postponed because of increased regulatory and community interest and work requirements for Sites 3 and 4.

The RAB met four times during FY98. The technical assistance for public participation (TAPP) program was presented to the RAB. In addition, the Navy conducted site tours for interested community residents and other public groups. Informal partnering has continued to expedite the decision-making process. The CRP was reviewed and determined to be satisfactory.

Plan of Action

- Complete RI supplemental investigation for Sites 3 and 4 in FY99
- Complete the RI, including the Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments, for all four IR sites in FY99
- Complete the site management plan in coordination with the negotiation of the Federal Facility Agreement in FY99
- Begin updating the CRP in FY99
- Begin FSs for all four IR sites in FY99
- Complete the interim ROD for Site 3 in FY99
- Complete No Further Action RODs for Sites 1 and 2 in FY00
- Complete RODs for Sites 3 and 4 in FY00
- Initiate final response action for Sites 3 and 4 in FY00

FY99 FUNDING BY PHASE AND RELATIVE RISK

